(a) whether Government are aware that as per the objective of the Eighth Five Year Plan and the National Policy, Telephone facilities are to be provided in all the Gram-panchayats in tribal areas, by March 1995; and

(b) whether it has been covered and if not, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir, However, as per National Telecom Policy, 1994, all the villages of the country including Gram Panchayats in tribal areas will be covered by Public telephone facility progressively by the year 1997.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Telephone connections to Village Panchayats

7036. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to provide nearly one and a half lakh Panchayat phones in the country during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how many village panchayats are likely to be covered in Madhya Pradesh during the said period, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Sir, target of providing 1,05,000 village public telephones in the country, including Panchayat villages, has been fixed for the year 1995-96.

(c) For Madhya Pradesh, a target of providing public telephones to 10400 villages including 3872 Panchayat villages, has been fixed for the year 1995-96. The district-wise details of Panchayat villages to be covered during the said period are given in Statement.

Statement

District-wise details of Panchayat Villages in Madhya Pradesh proposed to be covered with public telephones during the year 1995-96.

Sl. No.	Name of District	Proposed Panchayat villages during 1995-96.
1.	Balaghat	56
2.	Baster	123
3.	Betul	95
4.	Bhind	75
5.	Bhopal	57
6.	Bilaspur	140
7.	Chhatarpur	72
8.	Chhindwara	75
9.	Damoh	68
10.	Datia	25
11.	Dewas	122
12.	Dhar	103
13.	Durg	110
14.	Guna	108
15.	Gwalior	Nil
16.	Hoshangabad	58
17.	Indore	Nil
18.	Jabalpur	115
19.	Jhabua	103
20.	Khandwa	90
21.	Khargone	118
22.	Mandla	60
23.	Mandosur	178
24.	Morena	95
25.	Marsinghpur	88
26.	Panna	58
27.	Raigarh	123
28.	Raipur	178
29.	Raisen	66
30.	Rajgarh	69
31.	Rajnandgaon	75
32.	Ratlam	85
33.	Rewa	113
34.	Sagar	85
35.	Sarguja	86
36.	Satna	84
37.	Sehore	18
38.	Seoni	103
39.	Shahdol	102
40.	Shajapur	115
41.	Shivpuri	82
42.	Shidhi	87
43.	Tikamgarh	78
44.	Ujjain	38
45.	Vidisha	95
	TOTAL :	3872